WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for evaluating a computer product on a plurality of computer systems, comprising using a unified diagnostics platform to generate a desired computer system and evaluating the computer product on that computer system.

2. The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the desired computer system is generated by connecting a plurality of computer devices to the unified diagnostics platform.

3. The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the unified diagnostics platform includes at least one switch.

4. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the method as set forth in claim 1.

5. A method for providing a computer environment in which to evaluate a computer product, comprising:

configuring the computer environment using a switching device capable of connecting a plurality of computer devices to generate the computer environment; and

evaluating the computer product in the computer environment.

6. The method as set forth in claim 5, wherein the switching device is a unified diagnostics platform.

7. The method as set forth in claim 6, where the unified diagnostics platform comprises a switch.

8. The method as set forth in claim 7, wherein the switch is a software switch.

9. An evaluation system for evaluating a computer product, comprising:

a unified diagnostics platform having a plurality of computer devices and the computer product connected thereto, the unified diagnostics platform comprising:

a switching multiplexor that allows multiple combinations of connections between the plurality of computer devices and the computer product; and

a controller in communication with the switching multiplexor that selects at least one of the multiple connection combinations.

10. The evaluation system as set forth in claim 9, wherein the switching multiplexor is a multi-way, multi-function switch that facilitates the multiple connection combinations.

11. The evaluation system as set forth in claim 10, wherein the switching multiplexor further comprises a main switch and a secondary switch connected to the main switch.

12. The evaluation system as set forth in claim 11, wherein a plurality of computer peripherals are connected to the main switch, the secondary switch is connected to a plurality of operating systems, and the computer product comprises a plurality of computer products connected to the main switch and the secondary switch.

13. The evaluation system as set forth in claim 9, wherein the computer product may be at least one of: (a) a communications device; (b) a display device; (c) an input/output device; (d) a user interface device.

14. The evaluation system as set forth in claim 9, wherein at least one of the plurality of computer devices is internal to the unified diagnostics platform.

15. The evaluation system as set forth in claim 9, wherein at least one of the plurality of computer devices is external to the unified diagnostics platform.

16. The evaluation system as set forth in claim 9, wherein at least one of the plurality of computer devices is powered at least in part by a power supply internal to the unified diagnostics platform.

17. The evaluation system as set forth in claim 9, wherein the controller is a software selector.

18. The evaluation system as set forth in claim 11, wherein the controller further comprises a main controller controlling the main switch and a secondary controller controlling the secondary switch.

19. The evaluation system as set forth in claim 18, wherein the controller is a master controller that is used to control the main controller, the secondary controller, the main switch and the secondary switch.

20. The evaluation system as set forth in claim 19, wherein the main controller is software controlled.